RESEARCH NOTES

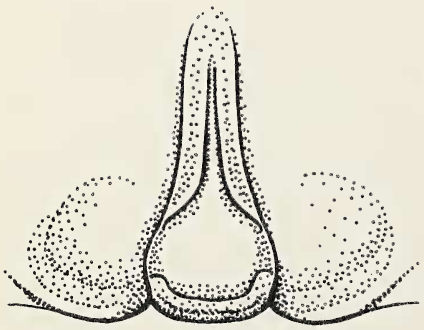
A NEW *PHILODROMUS* (ARANEAE: THOMISIDAE) FROM ARIZONA

Philodromus eremus, new species

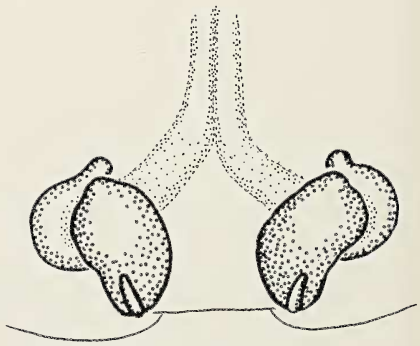
Male.—Unknown.

Female.—Total length 5.4 mm; cephalothorax 2.05 mm long and 2.03 mm wide. Femur I 2.35 mm long; femur II 2.68 mm long. Carapace orange-brown, darker laterally; meta- and prodiscal areas patterned with pale creamy orange (Fig. 1). Eyes, except anterior medians, on low tubercles; with inconspicuous narrow light marginal rings; posterior medians closer to anterior laterals than to posterior laterals. Legs with relatively dense scopulae; orange-brown, irregularly speckled and blotched with darker brown; darker at segment ends; with incompletely developed dark dorsal stripe on patella, tibia

1



2



3

Figs. 1-3.—Structures of *Philodromus eremus*, new species: 1, Female carapace; 2, Epigynum; 3, Female genitalia, dorsal view.

and metatarsus. Femur I with 3 dorsal macrosetae and 3 prolaterals; tibia I with 2 dorsal macrosetae, 3 prolaterals, 3 retrolaterals and 3 pairs of ventrals. Abdomen cleft in front, evenly rounded laterally, widest at middle, its form reminiscent of the genus *Rhysodromus*. Dorsum of abdomen with dark heart mark followed by median dark area which narrows posteriorly; covered with feathery golden-brown scales. Sides with mottled pattern of brown and pale scales. Venter pale.

Epigynum with median septum narrow anteriorly and expanding posteriorly into a broad plate (Fig. 2). Spermathecae as shown (Fig. 3).

Type.—Holotype female from the Chiricahua Mountains, Cochise County, Arizona (1 July 1965. V. Roth), deposited in the American Museum of Natural History.

Range.—Known only from the type locality.

Comments and diagnosis.—The female of *Philodromus eremus* is distinguished from other members of the genus *Philodromus* by its genitalia. The form of the spermathecae and that of the epigynum, especially its median septum, is distinctive. In general appearance *P. eremus* is closest to certain species of the *aureolus* group (*P. keyserlingi* Marx, *P. spectabilis* Keyserling) but its placement with certainty awaits the discovery of the male.

Dr. C. D. Dondale made the specimen available for study and provided helpful comments. My wife Judith did the drawings. **Donald J. Buckle** GBS 1-7, R.R. 1, Preeceville, Saskatchewan.

EGG COCOON OF THE FILMY DOME SPIDER, *LINYPHIA MARGINATA* C. L. KOCH (ARANEAE: LINYPHIIDAE)

Neither McCook (Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia 2:119, 1890) nor Kaston (Bull. Connecticut Geol. Nat. Hist. Surv. 70:123, 1948) could find the eggs of the very common filmy dome spider, *Linyphia marginata* C. L. Koch, but both referred to Blackwall (*A History of the Spiders of Great Britain and Ireland,* Ray Society, London, 1941), who reported that the female of this species attaches her cocoon "to withered leaves, or other objects situated near the snare." However, Blackwall's *L. marginata* is not *L. marginata* C. L. Koch, but instead is synonomous with *L. montana* Sundevall and *L. resupina* Wider. [According to Bristowe (*The Comity of Spiders,* Ray Society, London. 1941) *L. marginata* Blackwall is also synonomous with *L. resupina domestica* (Linnaeus).] Blackwall uses the name *L. triangularis* for *L. marginata* C. L. Koch and does not mention the egg cocoon. Eliminating Kaston's and McCook's incorrect references thus leaves no record of the filmy dome spider's egg cocoon.

In 1972 a study was made of *L. marginata* inhabiting ground junipers (*Juniperus communis*) in oak woods on the E. S. George Reserve, Pinckney, Michigan. During May and June I observed many females mate, become gravid, and later disappear, but failed to find any egg cocoons. During the next two months eight apparently gravid spiders were placed in separate isolators made of aluminum insect screening, 30 cm high and 20 cm in diameter, covered top and bottom with fiberglass screening. Each isolator contained dirt covered with oak leaves and was placed in the woods. The spiders built webs in the isolators, and six spiders had deposited single egg cocoons within six days of being introduced into the isolators. Two spiders died without laying eggs. Four cocoons were deposited under the leaves, on the dirt, and two were placed in the curl of a leaf. The